

OBITUARIES.

GEORGE BRETtingham SOWERBY, F.L.S. Third of the Name.
1843-1921.

AN original member of this Society and a stalwart representative of the noted family of naturalist-illustrators, G. B. Sowerby, third of the name, was born 18th September, 1843, being the eldest son of George Brettingham Sowerby, second of the name.

After the usual preliminary education, and when but seventeen or eighteen years of age, he joined his father in business as a conchologist at their house in Great Russell Street, London, W.C. Some three years after his father's death in 1884, the business was removed to Fulham Road, London, S.W., and twelve years later to Kew, whilst from 1897 he was joined in partnership by Mr. H. C. Fulton, Sowerby finally retiring from the business in January, 1916. He retained his interest in conchology, however, to the end, and at the time of his death on the 31st January, 1921, his last paper was passing through the press for our *Proceedings*.

His earliest work was one of collaboration with his father on the well-known "Thesaurus Conchyliorum", and he was responsible for its completion, for he wrote the "Appendix (second supplement) to Monograph of the genus *Conus*", finished the monographs on *Voluta* and *Melo*, and was sole author of that on the genus *Turbo*. He also published a second edition of his father's "Illustrated Index of British Shells" in 1887, and a work on the "Marine Shells of South Africa" in 1892.

Some ninety-five papers, almost entirely on systematic lines, were contributed by him to various societies' publications and scientific journals. Of these forty-eight appeared in our own *Proceedings*, the more important being "Notes on the Family Ampullariidæ" (in Vols. VIII, IX, and XII) and "Notes on *Magilus*" (in Vol. XIII). To most of these he furnished his own illustrations.

Sowerby was elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 1888, but seems to have retired in 1920. He joined the Conchological Society of Great Britain in 1886, and served as one of its vice-presidents in 1889. Joining this Society on its foundation in 1893, he served on the Council from that date till 1898, and again during 1918 and 1919.

He had married in June, 1867, Miss Rose Wilkie, who with their son and two daughters survive him. The son, now in Australia, carries on the patronymic as "Fourth of the name", and there is yet a "Fifth of the name" to perpetuate the tradition.

A man of genial and generous nature, as well as of strong character, Sowerby was also something of an athlete, for until late years he was

one of the all the year round bathers, at first in the Serpentine, Hyde Park, and afterwards in the Thames at Kew, and twice finished in the first six in the long distance swimming championship in the Thames, for which he received medals.

[Much of the foregoing information was kindly supplied by Mr. H. C. Fulton.]

B. B. W.

DR. HENRY WOODWARD, F.R.S., ETC.¹ 1832-1921.

Read by the President, 11th November, 1921.

SINCE this Society last met it has sustained the grievous loss of one of its most prominent Members, Dr. Henry Woodward, who was amongst the most active of its founders, its first President, and the first nominated of the three Honorary Members elected at the beginning of the present year.

Dr. Woodward's great achievements in the palæontological world are so well known and have been so well set forth elsewhere with full biographical details, that only a brief allusion to the more important is here necessary. He was born at Norwich 24th November, 1832, and was the fifth son of Samuel Woodward, the celebrated Norfolk geologist and antiquarian. Leaving school in 1846, he went to reside with his brother, Dr. S. P. Woodward, the far-famed malacologist, who was then a Professor at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, and it was there, whilst attending the lectures and making field excursions, that young Henry developed his love of natural history. When his brother was appointed in 1849 to the British Museum, Henry came with him to town, but after an interval of temporary employments of a scientific nature, went to Norwich and spent the years between 1851 and 1858 in the East of England Bank there. In the latter year he obtained a junior post in the Geological Department of the British Museum under the Keepership of Mr. G. R. Waterhouse. Successive promotions followed till, on the death of his brother in 1865, he succeeded as First Class Assistant, and on Mr. Waterhouse's retirement in 1880 became Keeper of the Department.

On him devolved the task of organizing and superintending the removal of the geological collections to the then new Natural History Museum at South Kensington, and their display in their new quarters. His arrangement persists to this day, and with the excellent guide books he wrote, or superintended, is a standing testimony to the able way in which the work was carried out. So highly were his services appreciated that, with Treasury sanction, he was retained in his post for four years beyond the normal limit, and was then employed on work in his old department for yet another four

¹ A portrait of Dr. Woodward was published as frontispiece to these *Proceedings*, Vol. VI.